

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

- 1           1. (Presently amended) An automated method of composing a virtual book  
2   from a set of electronically stored documentation comprising multiple books, the  
3   method comprising:
  - 4       identifying a plurality of topics based on the chapter and section headings  
5   in the documentation, wherein each said topic is associated with a portion of the  
6   documentation;  
7       determining a structure of the documentation, wherein said structure  
8   indicates a hierarchy of said topics within the documentation;  
9       classifying each of said topics within one or more categories;  
10      receiving a subject for a virtual book;  
11      composing said virtual book to include a subset of said topics that are  
12   relevant to said subject, and each said relevant topic includes a pointer to said  
13   associated portion of the documentation.
- 1           2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising searching said  
2   topics for a set of topics relevant to said subject.
- 1           3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said relevant topics are  
2   grouped in said virtual book by said categories.

1           4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said relevant topics within a  
2 first category are listed in the order of their relevance to said subject.

1           5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said relevant topics within a  
2 first category are listed in the order they occur within the documentation.

1           6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying index  
2 entries in the documentation.

1           7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said index entries are  
2 included in said virtual book.

1           8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising sorting said  
2 relevant topics according to their relevance to said topic.

1           9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said categories include one  
2 or more of the set of: concept, task, example, reference and troubleshooting.

1           10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said composing comprises:  
2 identifying a characteristic of a viewer of said virtual book; and  
3 customizing said virtual book for the viewer on the basis of said  
4 characteristic.

1           11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said characteristic is one  
2 of the set of: employment role and level of experience.

1           12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said characteristic  
2 comprises a level of experience of the user and said customizing comprises  
3 omitting one or more of said categories from said virtual book.

1           13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said characteristic  
2 comprises an employment role of the user and said customizing comprises  
3 implementing said role as another category of said virtual book.

1           14. (Presently amended) A computer-implemented method of generating a  
2 virtual electronic book from a set of electronic documentation comprising  
3 multiple books stored in multiple files, comprising:  
4           storing physical attributes of the multiple files in a database;  
5           identifying topics based on the chapter and section headings within the  
6 documentation, wherein each said topic comprises a heading within one of the  
7 multiple files;  
8           associating unique identifiers with each of said topics;  
9           storing said topics in said database;  
10          for each of said stored topics:  
11           storing in said database a reference to a first book containing said topic;  
12           storing in said database a reference to a first file containing said topic;  
13           storing in said database a reference to a parent topic of said topic, if any, in  
14 the first book; and  
15           storing in said database a reference to a child topic of said topic, if any, in  
16 the first book;  
17          categorizing each of said stored topics into one or more pre-determined  
18 categories, wherein each of said categories represents a type of topic;  
19          receiving a subject for a virtual book;  
20          searching said stored topics for topics relevant to the subject; and

21           presenting said virtual book to a viewer, wherein said virtual book  
22 comprises said relevant topics grouped according to said categories.

1           15. (Presently amended) A computer readable storage medium storing  
2 instructions that, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform an  
3 automated method of composing a virtual book from a set of electronically stored  
4 documentation comprising multiple books, the method comprising:  
5           identifying a plurality of topics based on the chapter and section headings  
6 in the documentation, wherein each said topic is associated with a portion of the  
7 documentation;  
8           determining a structure of the documentation, wherein said structure  
9 indicates a hierarchy of said topics within the documentation;  
10          classifying each of said topics within one or more categories;  
11          receiving a subject for a virtual book;  
12          composing said virtual book to include a subset of said topics that are  
13 relevant to said subject, and each said relevant topic includes a pointer to said  
14 associated portion of the documentation.

1           16. (Canceled).

1           17. (Presently amended) An apparatus for producing a virtual book,  
2 comprising:  
3          a set of electronic documentation files;  
4          a topic module configured to identify a set of topics based on the chapter  
5 and section headings within said documentation, wherein each said topic  
6 comprises a heading appearing in said documentation;  
7          a structural analysis module configured to determine a hierarchy of said  
8 topics within said documentation;

9           a categorizer configured to classify a first of said topics into one or more  
10 predetermined categories;  
11           a database configured to store said topics, said hierarchy and said  
12 classifications; and  
13           a processor configured to produce a virtual book comprising a subset of  
14 said set of topics, wherein said subset of said topics is relevant to a subject of said  
15 virtual book.

1           18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising a network  
2 server configured to present said virtual book to a user.

1           19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising an index  
2 module configured to assemble index entries referring to said relevant topics  
3 within said documentation.

1           20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said processor is further  
2 configured to customize said virtual book on the basis of one of a role of a viewer  
3 of said virtual book and a level of experience of the viewer.

1           21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said categories include  
2 one or more of the set of: concept, task, example, reference, troubleshooting, role  
3 of a viewer of said virtual book and level of experience of the viewer.